

# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

## May 2010

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### Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Newsletter Date  
May 21, 2010

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## 2010 Police Week Activities



The Lynchburg Police Department recognized National Police Week (May 9-15) with a number of activities. The week began with the annual Central Virginia Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Service, featuring guest speaker C. Romaine Cheney. Ms. Cheney is the sister of Trooper Jessica Cheney, who was killed in the line of duty in 1998 in Stafford County.

Nearly twenty agencies and representatives from local government offices and school divisions gathered to honor three Virginia law enforcement officials who lost their lives in 2009: Deputy Christopher Ray of Southampton County Sheriff's Office, Corporal Christopher Paschal of Smyth County Sheriff's Office, and Investigator Chad Carr of Greene County Sheriff's Office.



Corp. Paschal



Deputy Ray



Inv. Carr



Ms. C. Romaine Cheney



2010 Memorial Service

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## LPD Wreath-Laying and Awards Ceremony

LPD honored those personnel who are no longer with us at the 2nd Annual Wreath-Laying Ceremony in front of the Public Information Building. Eight officers from 1920-2008 have lost their lives either in the line of duty or while serving at the Lynchburg Police Department.



**S.M. McKinney accepts Life Saving Award From Colonel Park Snead**

Lynchburg Police Department Personnel and citizens were honored recently at the annual LPD Awards Ceremony at College Hill Baptist Church. Nearly 60 people received some type of recognition for their contributions, ranging from commendations to Honorable Service awards, from Humanitarian Service to a new LPD Chief's Award.

Officer S. M. McKinney received the Life Saving Medal for his role in talking a citizen off the Fifth Street bridge, averting a potentially critical or even life-threatening outcome.

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## Citizens Police Academy Graduates Recognized

The 21st Citizens Police Academy recognized 23 graduates during the Lynchburg Police Department's annual Awards Ceremony. Citizens were exposed to a number of LPD divisions, including Criminal Investigations, Crime Scene Investigation, Field Operations, K-9 Unit, Crime Prevention, and Street Crimes. Participants even tried their hand at the firing range. View the LPD website for the next academy session.



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## New Captain Named To Crime Prevention Unit



**Capt. R.M. Zuidema**

Captain R.M. Zuidema, a thirteen-year member of the Lynchburg Police Department, was recently placed in charge of the Special Operations Division, which includes the Crime Prevention Unit. Captain Zuidema takes over for Captain W. K. Dance, who was transferred to the Criminal Investigations Division. These moves come about since Captain Al Thomas accepted the position of Chief of Police with the Lexington, Va., Police Department.

Prior to taking over the Special Operations Division, Captain Zuidema was Captain over the South Patrol Division.

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## 3rd Annual Will Branham Memorial Dodgeball Tourney

Lynchburg Police Officer Will Branham lost his battle with cancer in 2008. This past April the LPD, along with 17 other organizations, remembered Officer Branham with the 3rd Annual Will Branham Dodgeball Tournament.



While the LPD fielded two strong teams, with one making it to the championship game, a team from the Amelon Food Lion took home the 1st place trophy. The Children's Miracle Network was the beneficiary of generous donations and a full day of activities and fun for everyone.

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## Younger Park Improvements



The Fairview Neighborhood Watch group, along with members of the community and City of Lynchburg staff, took part in activities April 22nd celebrating the completion of Phase I improvements to Younger Park.



This park upgrade is part of a phased investment in neighborhood recreation as outlined in Three Park Master Plan for College, Perrymont, and Younger Parks (Land Planning & Design Associates, 2007).

The City has partnered with the Fairview Neighborhood Watch to improve park infrastructure and neighborhood access while building upon existing partnerships to guide future planning and investment strategies.

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## Safety First NW Holds Appreciation Luncheon

Members of the Safety First NW group at Maple Ridge Apartments recently showed their appreciation for the LPD and various units with an appreciation luncheon at the complex. The Crime Prevention Unit, Street Crimes and Vice/Narcotics units were invited, and they were joined by apartment management and residents, as well as Mayor Joan Foster.



LPD officers enjoy lunch at the Safety First NW at Maple Ridge Apartments.

Officer G.M. Coleman of the Crime Prevention Unit at the Safety First Appreciation Luncheon.





## Neighborhood Watch Survey Results

This past March many of you were asked to complete a Neighborhood Watch survey, and we wish to thank those that took the time to fill out and submit the form. An overwhelming majority of respondents (97%) felt police respond to calls in a timely manner, though only 59% said there was adequate police patrol in their neighborhood.

Speeding of vehicles was a problem to 76% of respondents, while 60% agreed housing and business conditions could be improved upon in their area. An alarming 76% of those surveyed stated they have seen illegal drug activity on their streets, but only 40% felt gangs hang out in their neighborhoods.

Of those surveyed, 90% found the services of the Community Policing Coordinators and Community Services Coordinator useful, while almost as many (83%) utilized the services of the Crime Prevention Specialist within the Crime Prevention Unit. Again, thank you to everyone who participated in the survey. We will use this data to assist in addressing future concerns in your neighborhoods

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## Door-to-Door Alarm Sales Warning



The Lynchburg Police Department encourages all citizens to be aware and observant of door to door sales, an increase in alarm company vehicles in the neighborhood, and hearing of high pressure sales tactics from others.

If visited by a person identifying themselves as an alarm sales representative, whom you doubt the legitimacy of, do not allow them to enter your home. Request to see their required Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services issued photograph registration card and take down the information from it. If the sales person is pushy, refuses to show their registration card or otherwise acts suspiciously, write down their description and that of their vehicle, and immediately call the law enforcement agency.

The LPD encourages citizens to contact their local crime prevention office or a legitimate local alarm company to seek a presentation regarding alarm regulations and alarm usefulness.

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